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TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN RELATION TO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.¹

THE industrial development of the United States has created a demand for men with a technical education. The presence in the community of men with a technical education contributes to the more rapid development of our industrial enterprises. Each factor is at once a cause and a result and neither could be most effective without the other.

The history of industrial development and of industrial education are naturally inseparable. They must be treated together if one would understand their interdependence. It was never intended by the mother country that her New England colonies should ever engage in manufacturing.

The Earl of Chatham once said that the Colonists had no right to manufacture so much as a single horse shoe nail.

In 1750 a law was passed by parliament which prohibited the 'erection or continuance of any mill or other engine for slitting or rolling iron, or any plating forge to work with a tilthammer, or any furnace for making steel in the colonies under penalty of two hundred pounds.' Every such mill, engine, forge or furnace was declared a common nuisance which the governors of the province were bound to abate. The real cause of the revolution is to be found in the discontent of the colonies with such legislative oppression.

The war of the revolution, stopping all

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¹ Commencement address, June 14, 1906, at the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, by Mr. Charles G. Washburn, president of the corporation.